combined operation of Army and the Air Force. The operation was a success. Further use of helicopters in a gunship role in J & K would depend on the tactical situation.

Appropriate steps continue to be taken to tackle the terrorists in J & K.

Incidences of Killings and Stealing of Organs of Defence Personnel

†4735. PROF. RAM GOPAL YADAV:
SHRI RAMA SHANKER KAUSHIK:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the incidences of killings of army officers and personnel and stealing of important limbs after killings are taking place in the army;

(b) if not, the reaction of Government over the news-item published in Hindi newspaper "Hindustan" dated the 5th April, 2000, on front page under the caption "Vayu Adhikari ki Aankhen, gurde va dusre jaruri ang nikale gaya"; and

(c) the steps Government would like to take to prevent the re-occurrence of such incidence?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) No, Sir.

(b) In an incident of May 1998, an Indian Airforce personnel admitted in a Navy Hospital in Mumbai was suddenly found dead. A post mortem examination was conducted to find out the cause of death. During the post mortem, some internal organs were removed for examination. A Court of Inquiry ordered by the Airforce authroities to inquire into the allegation of theft of internal organs of the late IAF personnel, found the allegation baseless. However, following a complaint made by the father of the decease, the body was exhumed on the orders of Coroner of Mumbai. The second post morten examination conducted by Coroner's Court, Munmbai and the chemical analysis report did not support the allegation.

(c) Does not arise.

Reductions in Manpower of Indian Army

†4736. SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(a) whether Government have announced a cut in the number of personnel working at different ranks in Indian Army;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof;

(c) whether the security and military strength of the country will be adversely affected due to this order for cut; and

(d) the criterion and circumstances behind this decision of Government?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Implementation of CAT's Order

4737. DR. C. NARAYANA REDDY: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 3111 given in the Rajya Sabha on 4th September, 1996, and state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the order given by the Central Administrative Tribunal, Jabalpur on 1st December, 1999;

(b) whether the decision has been implemented; and

(c) if not, what are the reasons for not implementing the decision taken by Government as mentioned in the above referred answer and also order given by the CAT?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) to (c) Government are aware of the order dated 1st December 1999 of the Central Administrative Tribunal (CAT), Jalbalpur. the position is that in the case of financial and other irregularities in the office of Garrison Engineer (West), Jabalpur, in respect of the work orders/suppl. orders pertaining to the year 1989-90 and 1990-91, to which Rajya Sabha Unstarred question No. 3111 answered on 4.9.1996 referes, a Store Keeper, Grade II was found guilty and was awarded the punishment of compulsory retirement by the concerned Chief Engineer by his order dated 24.3.1994. The Government had, on an appeal preferred by the official, set aside this order and had remitted the case for enquiry by the competent authority i.e. Engineer-in-Chief (E-in-C), as per rules. The E-in-C has since completed the inquiry as per rules and has found the official guilty and has imposed the penatly of compulsory retirement by an order passed on 14th July, 1997. The order of the CAT, Jabalpur dated 1.12.1999 refers only to the first order of compulsory retirement of 24.3.1994 and the